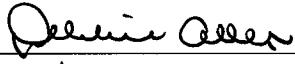


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| In re Application of: | § | |
| COLIN TEMPLE | § | Group Art Unit: 1796 |
| | § | |
| Serial No.: 10/776,887 | § | Confirmation No: 3325 |
| | § | |
| Filed: FEBRUARY 11, 2004 | § | Examiner: FIGUEROA, JOHN J. |
| | § | |
| For: "DRILLING FLUIDS WITH | § | Atty Docket: 2003-IP-009967U1P1 |
| IMPROVED SHALE INHIBITION AND | § | |
| METHODS OF DRILLING IN | § | |
| SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS" | § | |

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF FILING ELECTRONICALLY VIA EFS 37 C.F.R. § 1.8</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEF THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE VIA EFS (ELECTRONICALLY) ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW, AND IS ADDRESSED TO:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> DEBBIE ALLEN</p> <p>DATE OF SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 11, 2009 ELECTRONIC FILING (EFS)</p> |
|--|

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 TO
NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION, MAILED MAY 11, 2009**

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 11, 2009 (the "Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

- **Amendments to the Claims**, which begin on page 2 of this paper and
- **Remarks/Arguments**, which begin on page 11 of this paper.